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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

POLISH PRESS EXPANDS UNDER SOVIET CONTROL

FINISH SOVIETIZATION OF POLISH PRESS -- Svenska Dagbladet, No 110, 25 Apr 50

Sovietization of the Polish press recently became complete with confirmation of a resolution which makes it practically impossible for a non-Communist journalist or newspaper publisher to exercise his profession. This resolution was proposed earlier by approximately 500 journalists at the regular annual meeting of the Journalists' Union.

The meeting ostensibly had been called so that a new executive board might be elected, and participation was compulsory. The elections were conducted in such a way that only a Communist could be elected. The 500 members participating in the meeting were those who had survived recent numerous purges of the Polish press, and who had obeyed the government's demand that Polish newspapers resemble those of the Soviet Union in every respect.

The newspaper correspondents serving all over Poland have not been chosen from among professional journalists, but from members of the Communist Party. They select news which they regard as important and wire or send it to the newspapers. This excludes practically everything of general human interest; hence all news in Poland today tends to be uniform reporting on Party meetings, and Party or governmental activities. It was recently reported in Warsaw that the 35 newspapers in Poland employ about 10,000 such correspondents. One newspaper, Trybuna Robotnicza, alone employs 1,500.

Those who serve the Party's purposes are paid well. As in USSR, journalists earn higher salaries than they did before the war. All first-class newspapermen earn at least 1,500 kronor [one krona equals 19 cents] per month, many considerably more.

With unlimited state appropriations, cheap paper, and artificially increased dissemination, the newspapers themselves are considerably better off economically than before the war. To ensure dissemination of government and Party propaganda, newspapers are sold very cheaply. The Poles, who have always been very avid newspaper readers and have nothing else to read, buy them; the sales volume has

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swollen enormously. One daily newspaper in Katowice puts out the enormous (for Poland) number of 500,000 copies. A weekly periodical designed especially for women reported recently that its circulation has reached the one million mark or more than all of Poland's prewar periodicals put together.

On 1 May, the publication of a daily newspaper for Polish youth began. Resembling the Russian Komsomol, it will be published by the Communist-directed Polish Youth League and will be required reading for its 1,200,000 members.

PUBLISHING HOUSE UNDER CONSTRUCTION -- Wola Luda, No 35, 4 Feb 50

Work on the Dom Slowa Polskiego (House of the Polish Word) which will cover an area of 12 hectares in Warsaw, has been in progress since April 1948. The heart of the entire complex will be the 2-hectare production room. It will be one of the largest and most modern structures of its kind in Europe.

The reinforced concrete construction of the production room was completed according to plan on 22 July 1949; however, much still remains to be done in order to have the first rotary press in operation by 22 July 1950. The entire room must be glazed, the front and the steam-distributing building must be completed, ventilating ducts must be installed, and firm foundations for heavy machinery must be laid.

The production room will be two stories high and will be heated with steam by the MZK heating plant located nearby. The production plant will contain rotary presses for printing newspapers, color reproduction and printing equipment, and book printing machines. One of the rotary presses will be 26 meters in length and will weigh 300 tons.

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